

Groundwater Committee Meeting Notes

1/28/03

Meeting Chaired by Alec Naugle, committee chair

Future Committee Meetings

- April 29, July 29, October 28

South Bay Report Response to Comments Document – Appendix I

- Waste Management, Inc Comments: Tom Butler/will get review by Curtis Scott; Aboveground Tanks comment: Julie Menack
- Trish Mulvey: 3 comments: Michael Rochette will take first two; Julie Menack 3rd (will contact Tom Mohr)
- Elizabeth Janes Comments: p. 14/15: 1: Stephen Hill and Habte Kifle; 2: Chuck Headlee; 3)Stephen Hill; 4) Sarah Raker
- SLAC Comments: Alec Naugle/Michael Rochette. Will correct geology and provide to Jeff Kapellas to change the basin boundaries on all of the figures.
- Leah Walker Comments: Sarah Raker. Group had a discussion about including the location of wells in the South Bay report and decided that the report is not detailed enough for this to be a problem.
- City of Santa Clara Water Department: Comment re: leaking sewer system findings. Tom Mohr drafted up a response. Alec will follow up with Tom.
- Mary Rose Comments: Chuck will review and edit.
- David Abbott: Groundwater/Surface water interaction. What is considered surface water vs. groundwater? Recent State Board decision on this. Check w/ Stephen Hill. Julie Menack and Habte Kifle. Also see Richard McMurtry comments.

Other South Bay Report Revisions and Issues:

- Responses back to Alec Naugle prior to 2/14
- Will be on the www in March
- Copies to stakeholders – CD Roms or email; copies for front desk area and committee members
- Leave copy at Kinkos that people can order
- “Regulatory Maze” issue: leave as is; don’t include enhanced discussion
- Executive Summary – Alec will reorganize
- Schedule:
 - Review and complete response to comments: 2/14
 - Address “other” issues: 2/14
 - Revise report text and figures: 2/17-2/28
 - Final Editorial review: 3/1-3/5: (Mary Rose Cassa and David Elias)
 - Final Report out: 3/14 (cover letter, PDF)

Electronic Reporting Project

- Last meeting: Jeff Kapellas gave presentation on changes to template from Excel spreadsheet to www-based format

- Future:
 - want to take from pilot project covering VOC plumes in S bay (dovetailing from S Bay report) to full-scale coverage of non-fuel plumes in Region 2 on the www.
 - Need to decide what to ask for and make changes in template.
 - Needs to be compatible w/ Geotracker. Asking for info not requested by Geotracker such as plume shape, date remediation started, and mass removed. Talk w/ Geotracker administrators to see if info could eventually be incorporated into Geotracker. Radmilla Moudry is Region 2 point of contact w/ Geotracker. Stephen Hill will talk w/ Michael Gerde at State Board.

Staff Training: Surface Water/Groundwater Interactions

- April 24, 2003
- Possible Topics
 - Case studies: Groundwater contaminant plume entering surface water or vice versa: Roger Brewer; Cecil Felix - Zeneca, Napa River Project
 - replenishment of groundwater by local agency using surface water ponds (Stephen Inn, ACWD)
 - water rights: State Board person?
 - Introductory section: Describing hydraulics and mechanics of groundwater/surface water interaction
 - Policy directions: Watershed management group – requirements for paving; how does this interact with our prohibition on dry wells; overpumping adjacent to creeks, post-construction remedial measures (Keith Lichten is our expert)
 - Training subcommittee: Keith Roberson, Alec Naugle, Mary Rose Cassa, Chuck Headlee, Stephen Morse, Laurent Meiller, and someone from Watershed Division (Keith Lichten, Mike Napolitano or Sandi Potter)
 - Draft Agenda due to Training Committee: end of February (2 months in advance)
 - Poster Sessions around the room?
 - If enough material and interest, consider adding an afternoon session.
 - What type of follow up should come out of the training?

Future Projects

- See handout – “What’s Next for Groundwater Committee?” which has examples of new topics/issues.
- Committee members should review this list in the next few months and think about what workgroup to participate on
- Workgroup format: break into smaller groups and address smaller issues
- Will discuss in detail during April meeting.
- Expect to start out with 2-3 workgroups
- Leader should put together a workplan
- Additional topic: Basin Plan Groundwater amendment

- Should prioritize topics – send out an email and ask people to rank; tally the rankings – Alec Naugle will delegate

Miscellaneous Issues, updates, and discussion

- Contra Costa Times Article today: Much of States Groundwater Tainted – MTBE and Perchlorate. Report done by Environment California organization (subsidiary of Cal Pirg).
- VOCs in indoor air
 - > 1 year ago, USEPA and DTSC started program to evaluate RCRA sites as part of environmental indicators. Result: indoor air pathway not adequately investigated. Sites have had to evaluate indoor air impacts over VOC plumes. We have required these studies. Need to separate out what is in the ambient air and what is in carpets, etc.
 - City of Mountain View sent RWQCB a letter asking us what we are doing regarding our superfund sites: we sent out letter to 18 Superfund sites. Because of this concern, USEPA held public meeting; was attended by John Wolfenden. EPA overwhelmed the public w/ information. May have been too technical. Approx. 250 people attended.
- Bottled water: held to a different standard than water supply
- Perchlorate:
 - Senate hearing in early Feb. re: extent of perchlorate in groundwater. In early January SWRCB asked regions to update SLIC database re: the extent of perchlorate in gw. UTC site in San Jose, Fairchild site in San Jose, OEA Aerospace site in Fairfield. Highly soluble in groundwater. Can be treated w/ ion exchange. Related to fireworks, airbag manufacturers, testing of rocket motors.
 - SWVWD involved in perchlorate issue: former Olin factory in Morgan Hill w/ significant plume; gw supply wells have been impacted. In Region 3. Investigating area 4 miles long by 1 mile wide. 600 private wells in area. 140 wells tested already; detected 4-10 ppb primarily. 1/15: KPIX interviewed SCVWD spokesperson; call center has received approx. 2,500 calls. Delivered bottled water to homes.
 - Chlorine atom w/ 4 oxygens. No taste and odor; concentrates when boil as salt. Ingestion an issue – thyroid – substitutes for iodine. Affects developing fetuses. Considered an acute toxin.
- GAMA Ambient monitoring program (Sarah Raker)
 - Data already collected for Livermore area; will have SCVWD data soon
 - Funding through end of this FY
 - Will be giving presentations to Groundwater Protection and Toxics Divisions
 - AB 599 Report – have internal draft. Will have opportunity to comment on next draft.
- Vertical Conduit Study Proposal (Stephen Inn)
 - State Board stated that all Cleanup and Abatement Account projects are presently on hold.
 - Can apply for funding through EPA